



PRESS CLIPS

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Vasundhara film fest to screen 75 movies

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Pune: Due to begin on March 22, the Vasundhara International Film Festival (VIFF), an environment and wildlife festival, will be held at the Yashwantrao Chavan auditorium. Showcasing 75 films, including short films, documentaries and feature films from across the globe in different languages, the festival will focus on water and on the United Kingdom as its core theme.

Addressing a press conference on Wednesday, Vijay Varma, chairperson of the festival, said the 'Vasundhara Mitra honour' will be presented to environmentalist and wildlife filmmaker Shekhar Dattari, snake rescuer Vilas Pansare and environmental or-

ALLIED ACTIVITIES	
● Nature and Heritage walks at Law College Hill, Empress Garden, Katraj Snake Park, Shaniwarwada and Pashan Lake	● Slogan Competition: Children have to write a 20-word slogan in any language and submit it at the venue.
● Gudi Padva Pahat 'Chaitra Palvi', an audio visual programme with songs, poems and clips.	● 'Save Vasundhara' workshop to be held by the PMC and the CEE.
● Workshop for children.	● Audio visual lectures on environment.

ganisation Nisarg Sevak on March 29 at the festival's concluding ceremony.

Some of the films screened under the country focus — UK, will showcase movies by Alistair Fothergill, David Attenborough, Bill Oddie and Donald MacIntyre for BBC Natural History.

While the festival will open with the documentary 'Ganges' produced by the Discovery Channel and BBC, the curtains will close with Dattari's 'Monsoon'. The main attraction in children's film section will be Kartiki Kane's award winning 'Minee- a successful mother'.

Varma also announced the

names of winners of the short film and documentary contest. Suresh Elamon bagged the top spot with his documentary 'Angels in Tigerland', the prize includes Rs 25,000 in cash and a memento. Arati Kulkarni of Mumbai secured the second prize with the film 'Gaaz' and Vimlendu Bose of New Delhi was adjudged third best in the category for 'Wasted'. Kulkarni and Bose will receive cash prizes of Rs 11,000 and Rs 7,000 respectively and a certificate each. "All the films were so good that choosing a handful became extremely difficult, so we have decided to hand out nine consolation prizes of Rs 2,000 each," Varma said.

Entry for the festival is free. Passes are available at Pathfinder near Neelayam theatre.